GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:407
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2007
EMPLOYMENT IN AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRY
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Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who have got employment in agro and rural industries in the country including Andhra Pradesh State and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to promote agro and rural industry particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

Answer

MINISTER FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a) The State/Union Territory-wise number of persons who are estimated to have got employment in agro and rural industries promoted by the Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) through two credit-linked subsidy schemes, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), implemented through the States and Union Territories, are given in Annex. I & II respectively.

(b) The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) also supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in promotion of agro and rural industries in the country, through various schemes / programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology up gradation, marketing, entrepreneurial development, etc. The steps taken in this direction include the implementation of the following schemes, throughout the country, including Andhra Pradesh:

(i) Scheme of Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) has been launched in order to diversify and develop products under Khadi & Village Industries and also to improve the packaging of the various KVI products.

(ii) Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) has been launched in October, 2005 for regeneration of traditional industries in 122 identified clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors.

(iii) Rural Industries Service Centres of KVIC help in setting up of common facility centres (CFCs) to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries.

(iv) Financial assistance is provided for participation in national and international exhibitions.

(v) Coverage under the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Small Industries (CGTSI) is extended to mitigate the problems faced by rural entrepreneurs in providing collateral security to the banks.

(vi) Convergence is established by KVIC with the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA), Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Ministry of Women and Child Development, etc.

(vi) The guidelines of the PMRY have been revised whereby the design parameters of the PMRY in terms of family income limits for eligibility, project cost ceilings, corresponding ceilings of subsidy, rates of assistance to States towards training of beneficiaries before and after selection, etc., have been improved with effect from 2007-08, which is expected to improve the progress of PMRY in the country, including Andhra Pradesh.